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Level 1

Why do children go to school?

3rd September, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-1.html>

What is school for? It's an easy question but people in the USA have different answers. A poll from a teaching group called PDK International asked Americans to name the biggest purpose of school. PDK said 45 per cent of people said the main goal was to prepare students for exams. Around a quarter of people said it was for kids to get a job. Just over 26 per cent of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach children about citizenship.

The CEO of PDK said the poll questioned whether schools were doing the right thing. He quoted from an author who said the purpose of school is, "to ask questions of the universe." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach creativity, ideas sharing and how to use technology. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots who work and make rich people richer".

Sources: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2016/08/29/why-do-kids-go-to-school-americans-are-divided-on-the-answer-a-new-poll-shows/>
<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-08-29/confusion-over-purpose-of-us-education-system>
<https://edsource.org/2016/national-poll-shows-differing-views-about-focus-of-public-education/568712>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. What is school for? | a. purpose of school |
| 2. people in the USA have | b. a teaching group |
| 3. A poll from | c. of people |
| 4. name the biggest | d. to get a job |
| 5. the main goal was to prepare | e. It's an easy question. |
| 6. Around a quarter | f. about citizenship |
| 7. it was for kids | g. different answers |
| 8. teach children | h. students for exams |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. The CEO | a. doing the right thing |
| 2. questioned whether schools were | b. kids into robots |
| 3. He quoted from | c. of PDK |
| 4. ask | d. richer |
| 5. Students had different ideas | e. use technology |
| 6. how to | f. an author |
| 7. just to make poor | g. about school |
| 8. make rich people | h. questions of the universe |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-1.html>

What is school for? It's (1) _____ but people in the USA have different answers. A poll from a teaching group called PDK International asked Americans (2) _____ purpose of school. PDK said 45 per cent of people said (3) _____ was to prepare students for exams. (4) _____ of people said it was for kids to get a job. Just (5) _____ of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach children (6) _____.

The CEO of PDK said the poll quest (7) _____ ioned whether schools were doing the right thing. He quoted from (8) _____ the purpose of school is, "to ask questions (9) _____." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach creativity, (10) _____ and how to use technology. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "(11) _____ poor kids into robots who work and make (12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-1.html>

What is school for? It's a easy question but people in the USA have different answers. A poll from a teaching group called PDK International asked American students the biggest purpose of school. PDK said 45 percent of people said the main goal was to prepare students for exams. Around a quarter of people said it was for kids to get a job. Just over 26 percent of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach children about citizenship. The CEO of PDK said the poll questioned whether schools were doing the right thing. He quoted from an author who said the purpose of school is, "to ask questions of the universe." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach creativity, idea sharing and how to use technology. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots who work and make rich people richer".

SCHOOL SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about school in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

